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**RCRA/CERCLA BACKGROUND SOIL SAMPLING
PLAN AT THE FERNALD ENVIRONMENTAL
MANAGEMENT PROJECT**

02/14/92

**DOE-889-92
DOE-FO/EPA
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LETTER**



Department of Energy
Fernald Environmental Management Project
P.O. Box 398705
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FEB 14 1992

DOE-889-92

Mr. James A. Saric, Remedial Project Director
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region V - 5HR-12
230 South Dearborn Street
Chicago, Illinois 60604

Mr. Graham E. Mitchell, Project Manager
Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
40 South Main Street
Dayton, Ohio 45402-2086

Dear Mr. Saric and Mr. Mitchell:

**RCRA/CERCLA BACKGROUND SOIL SAMPLING PLAN AT THE FERNALD ENVIRONMENTAL
MANAGEMENT PROJECT**

This transmittal provides responses to U.S. EPA and Ohio EPA comments on the Background Sampling Plan. Also provided in the enclosure, is a revised sampling plan. The enclosed draft final sampling plan presents a revised sampling approach involving the collection of soil samples from three discrete depth intervals at 30 background locations. The revised sampling approach was the subject of discussions at a January 16, 1992 meeting in Chicago, between representatives of U.S. EPA, Ohio EPA, the Department of Energy (DOE), and Westinghouse Environmental Management Company of Ohio (WEMCO).

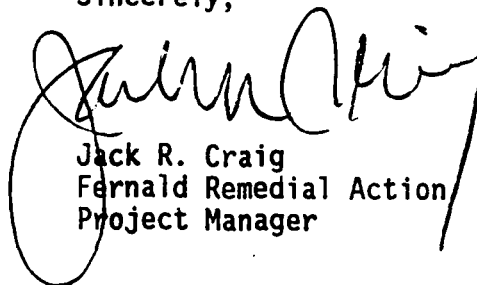
Based upon anticipated laboratory turnaround times for the collected samples, FEMP estimates that approximately seven months will be required to complete the sampling and receive analytical data from the laboratory. On the basis of this schedule, the results from the program will not be available to support the Operable Unit (OU) 2 or OU 4 Remedial Investigation (RI) Reports. Literature values or other site data will be employed on these reports to represent background characteristics of soils. The values to be used will be submitted to your office in the near future. Every effort will be made to expedite the program to ensure the data will be available to support the OU 2 Feasibility Study. DOE requests U.S. EPA and Ohio EPA concurrence on this approach for the OU 2 and OU 4 RI Reports.

DOE is proposing to proceed with the sampling program in advance of final EPA approval in order to support the current schedules for the OU 2 Feasibility Study. DOE requests prompt review of the proposed sampling locations and

analytical parameters so that any necessary changes can be appropriately integrated into ongoing activities. DOE is nearing completion of the task of obtaining access to the off-site properties involved, and anticipates mobilization to collect the samples by March 2, 1992.

If you or your staff have any questions, please contact me at FTS 774-6159 or (513) 738-6159.

Sincerely,



Jack R. Craig
Fernald Remedial Action
Project Manager

FO:Craig

Enclosure: As Stated

cc w/enc.:

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